Natural Gas Available in NER for Industrial use

3030. SHRI NABAM REBIA; Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of natural gas available in the North Eastern Region, particularly, in Arunachal Pradesh for allotment of industrial use;

(b) how much quantity, has been allotted among the industrial units sector-wise; and

(c) what steps has been taken by Government in this regard?

. THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) The present availability of natural gas for supply to consumers in the North Eastern Region is around 7.09 million standard cubic metres per day (MMSCMD), out of which the availability in Arunchal Pradesh is 0.06 MMSCMD.

(b) A total of around 8.02 MMSCMD has been allocated to the various industries in the region, out of which 4.50 MMSCMD is for Power Sector, 2.21 MMSCMD is for Fertiliser Sector and 1.31 MMSCMD for Tea Gardens and other industrial units. Since presently there is no demand for gas, no allocation has been made in Arunachal Pradesh.

(c) Oil India Ltd. has identified one consumer in Arunachal Pradesh for supply of gas.

LPG Distribution in Tamil Nadu

3031. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agencies entrusted with the work of LPG distribution in Tamil Nadu till date, district-wise;

(b) the number of LPG connections issued to them for distribution;

(c) the number of additional connections provided to them during the last five years district-wise; and

(d) the details of the new connections and new agencies likely to be sanctioned in each district of the State during the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) At present,

there are 436 LPG distributorships, with over 36.69 lakhs customer population, functioning in Tamil Nadu.

(c) During the last 5 years over 17.02 lakh connections were released in Tamil Nadu.

(d) 111 addition to the locations pending from previous Marketing Plans, 155 new LPG distributorships have been included in the LPG Marketing Plan 1996—98 for Tamil Nadu. Locations included in the Marketing Plan are advertised by the oil companies from time to time. Selection of distributor is made by the Dealer Selection Board on merit on the basis of interview. It generally takes about 6-12 months for commissioning of the dealerships/ distributorships from the date of interview. Instructions have been issued to the oil companies to release about 1 crore new connections during the current year.

LPG Distribution in Lambagaon and Pragpur of Himachal Pradesh

3032. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 57 and Unstarred Qustion 116 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th February, 1999 and 24th February, 2000 respectively and state :

(a) the reasons for not conducting the interviews for the LPG distributorship at Lambagaon and Pragpur, while the same was advertised on 27th January, 1999;

(b) by which time the Dealer Selection Board is likely to be reconstituted;

(c) whether Government proposes to select the distributors for the .same from amongst the Kith and Kin to those killed in Kargil war; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) Indian Oil Corporation had issued advertisement inviting applications for setting up LPG distributorship at Pragpur on 24-12-1997 and again readvertised the location on 18-5-1998. Lambagaon was advertised on 29-12-1997 and again readvertised on 21-5-1998. Selection for the above distributorships could not take place due to non-functioning of Dealer Selection Boards on account of announcement of General Elections